

(b) SUNSET.—Beginning on the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 399), shall have no force or effect.

(c) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS.—The unobligated balance, as of the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, of any amounts made available to carry out the pilot program described in section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 399)—

(1) is transferred to, and merged with, amounts made available to carry out section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb); and

(2) shall remain available, until expended, and without further appropriation, to carry out the ReConnect Program established under that section.

(d) EFFECT.—Title VI of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 607. EFFECT.**

“Nothing in this title authorizes the Secretary to regulate rates charged for broadband service.”.

(e) PUBLIC NOTICE, ASSESSMENTS, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 701 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950cc) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “, including a complete shapefile map” after “applicant”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(D), by striking “(c)” and inserting “(d)”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e) as subsections (c) through (f), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) CHALLENGE PROCESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a transparent, evidence based, and expeditious process for challenging, with respect to any area for which assistance is sought under an application described in subsection (a)(1), whether that area has access to broadband service.

“(2) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall make publicly available on the website of the Department of Agriculture a written notice describing—

“(A) the decision of the Secretary on each challenge submitted under paragraph (1); and

“(B) the reasons for each decision described in subparagraph (A).”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELIGIBLE FUNDING AREAS.—Prior to making available to the public the database under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make available to the public a fully searchable database on the website of the Rural Utilities Service that contains information on areas eligible for assistance under retail broadband projects that are administered by the Secretary in accordance with the maps created by the Federal Communications Commission under section 802(c)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 642(c)(1)).”.

(f) FEDERAL BROADBAND PROGRAM COORDINATION.—Section 6212 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 950bb-6) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) as subsections (b), (c), (e), and (a), respectively, and moving the subsections so as to appear in alphabetical order;

(2) in subsection (a) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (3), by striking “section 601(b)(3) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936” and inserting “section 601(b) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb(b))”;

(3) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) RECONNECT PROGRAM.—On awarding a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under the ReConnect Program established under section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb), the Secretary shall notify the Commission of that award.”; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(d) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RELATING TO OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Assistant Secretary and the Commission to facilitate outreach to residents and businesses in rural areas, including—

“(1) to evaluate the broadband service needs in rural areas;

“(2) to inform residents and businesses in rural areas of available Federal programs that promote broadband access, broadband affordability, and broadband inclusion; and

“(3) for such additional goals as the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Commission determine to be appropriate.”.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 133. A bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 134. A bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce two bills aimed at continuing the important progress we are making to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease. I know how devastating this disease is to our families. My father, grandfather, and two uncles all died from Alzheimer's. I am committed to this effort both as a person whose beloved family members have suffered from this terrible disease, as well as a Senator concerned about the impact on our families and our healthcare system.

When I founded the Congressional Alzheimer's Task Force in the Senate in 1999, there was virtually no focus on Alzheimer's in Washington. Twelve years ago, I coauthored the bipartisan National Alzheimer's Project Act with my colleague Senator Evan Bayh. Before we passed that legislation, there was no coordinated, strategic, national plan to focus our efforts to defeat Alzheimer's. NAPA fixed this by convening a panel of experts to create a coordinated strategic national plan to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025. The expert council updates the plan annually.

While the 2025 goal has been elusive, we have made some progress in our efforts to find a treatment and a means of prevention. Nevertheless, Alzheimer's remains the fifth leading cause of death in the United States for people over 65. In addition to the human costs, caring for people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias is one of the costliest conditions to society, costing our Nation an astonishing \$321 billion per year, including \$206 billion in Medicare and Medicaid spending. If we continue along this trajectory, Alzheimer's is projected to claim the minds of 12.7 million seniors and nearly surpass \$1 trillion in annual costs by 2050.

It takes a tremendous toll on families too. In 2021, family caregivers provided 16 billion hours of unpaid care for loved ones with dementia, a contribution to society valued at more than \$271 billion. That job is often 24/7 and often harms the health of the caregiver.

The first bill I am introducing today with my colleagues Senators WARNER, CAPITO, MARKEY, MORAN, MENENDEZ, MURKOWSKI, and STABENOW is the NAPA Reauthorization Act. This bill would reauthorize the National Alzheimer's Project Act through 2035 and modernize the legislation to reflect strides we have made in understanding the disease, such as including a new focus on promoting healthy aging and reducing risk factors. The National Alzheimer's Project Act is set to expire in 2025. We need to reauthorize this critical legislation this Congress in order to ensure that our research investments remain coordinated and there are no disruptions as we maximize the impact of our investments.

The second bill I am introducing with my colleagues Senators MARKEY, CAPITO, WARNER, MORAN, MENENDEZ, MURKOWSKI, and STABENOW is the Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act. This bill would continue through 2035 a requirement that the Director of the National Institutes of Health submit an annual budget to Congress estimating the funding necessary for NIH to fully implement NAPA's research goals. Only two other areas of biomedical research—cancer and HIV/AIDS—have been the subject of special budget development aimed at speeding discovery, and this “bypass budget,” as it is known, helps us to understand what additional funding is needed to find better treatments, a means of prevention, and ultimately a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

Nearly half of baby boomers reaching age 85 will either be afflicted with Alzheimer's or caring for someone who has it. In many ways, Alzheimer's is the defining disease of this generation. We have made tremendous progress in recent years to boost funding for Alzheimer's research, most recently providing \$3.74 billion—a \$226 million increase—for NIH Alzheimer's research in the fiscal year 2023 government funding bill. This investment holds